

Next Meeting: March 6, 2002

10:00 a.m. – Thorburn Center - Ingham ISD (Rooms B and C)

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 6, 2002, Meeting
10:00 a.m.

Present: Carolyn Belknap Bartz, Deborah Canja, Kathleen Clegg, Glenda Hammond, Nancy Jackson, Jill Jacobs, Kim Kaster, Patricia Keller, Brenda Kotsis, Shari Krishnan, Peggy McNeilly, Patricia Metz, Pam Mish, Bob Opsommer, Ginny Palubin, Brian Pianosi, Debs Roush, Deb Russell, Larry Simpson, Patricia St. George, Don Trap, Laurie VanderPloeg, Steve Wessels, Anne White-O'Hara
Ex-Officio members: Mark Larson, Rosanne Renauer, Jacquelyn Thompson

Absent: Jill Blixt, Michael DeVault, Sue Rabidoux, Randy VanGasse

OSE/EIS Staff: David Brock, Sue Leach, Fran Loose, Monica Butler

Guests: Lynn Boza, Phyllis Cox-Rebori, Terri Henrizi, Kevin Kaltrider, Anthony Kenyon, Linda Keway, Paul Kubicek, Sandi Laham, Pat MacQuarrie, Denise McGarr, Sharon Murphy, Jerry Oermann, Amy Rhodes, Mary Scoblic, Barb Stork

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Laurie VanderPloeg.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests

Guests attending the meeting were introduced.

Amend/Approve Proposed Agenda

The agenda of the February 6, 2002, meeting was considered. The following items were added :
SEAC Agenda item VIII was amended as follows:

- Education Yes report/update by Jacquelyn Thompson
- Summary of Listen and Learn Session with Tom Watkins on January 31, 2002

SEAC Agenda item X was amended as follows:

- IDEA Reauthorization - Shari Krishnan

Anne White-O'Hara moved, seconded by Steve Wessels, to approve the agenda as amended.
The motion carried.

Amend/Approve Minutes

The minutes of the January 6, 2002, meeting were considered. Attendance should indicate "David Brock (for Jacquelyn Thompson)." Don Trap moved, seconded by Ginny Palubin, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Chairperson's Report – Laurie VanderPloeg

SEAC members who had not responded regarding their attendance for the April 3, 2002, meeting were polled to indicate their attendance. A quorum should be present; SEAC will meet April 3, 2002, as scheduled.

SEAC committee members were notified that Kim Kaster would be stepping down from her seat on the Executive Committee but will keep her seat on the SEAC. It is the responsibility of the Chairperson to appoint another member to the Executive Committee for the remainder of the year.

A President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education has been established. Public testimony will be received at several meetings. The Executive Committee recommended Shari Krishnan pursue ways to speak to the Commission on behalf of the Michigan SEAC. Shari and Sandi Laham will work together to prepare the material to be presented, based on SEAC's guiding principles.

Committee members were reminded to complete and return their meeting evaluation forms so that appropriate changes could be considered for future meetings.

State Department Report – Jacquelyn Thompson

Joint Meeting of Steering, SEAC, and SICC on February 7. Fran Loose gave an overview of expectations for the joint meeting of the Steering Committee, SEAC, and SICC scheduled for February 7, 2002. The committees will be reviewing the Steering Committee's draft results from their last meeting, work in groups to get clarification on what the results mean, work with draft indicators, and discuss next steps in the improvement plan process. Fran also indicated that an additional Steering Committee meeting has been scheduled for April 16-17, 2002 at the Lansing Sheraton Hotel.

Education Yes. Jacquelyn Thompson gave an update on the Education Yes program. Public input was received on this accountability framework. There are three main themes in the accountability framework: (1) Essential skills in reading and math, (2) High school plan for educational outcomes ("leave no child behind"), and (3) Notion of a years progress for a year of school. The State Board will be receiving public comment on the framework at their February 14 meeting.

Summary of Listen and Learn Session with Superintendent Watkins on January 31, 2002. Jacque reviewed the background of the rule promulgation process on the current proposed Rules package. This included SEAC's extensive public comment development last summer, 18 public hearings, and 6 Listen and Learn sessions. The Oakland meeting on January 31 provided a chance for immediate electronic audience feedback on the proposed Rules. Due to inclement weather, many people were unable to attend. Mr. Watkins will be conducting another session on February 7, for members of the Steering Committee, SEAC, and SICC. The final

proposed rules package will go to the State Board on February 14 and then follow the promulgation process. The OSE-EIS will be conducting training on the new rules, when they are adopted.

State Board Meeting Report – Jacquelyn Thompson

MI Access. An update of MI Access was provided. Concern has been raised around the fact that current assessments do not include all students, in contradiction to the State Board's "All Students Count" policy. Discussion followed.

Information Items

A. State Improvement Grant (SIG) Update – Fran Loose

The SIG is currently in year 4 of its 5-year grant. Activities continue on the PBS initiative and the personnel development collaborative.

B. Executive Committee Slate of Nominations – Brian Pianosi

The Slate of Nominations was provided to all SEAC members and the floor was opened for write-ins. No write-ins were recommended at this time. Ballots will be mailed. Each committee member will vote for seven Executive Committee Members from the Slate and mail the ballot back to OSE/EIS.

C. IDEA Reauthorization

Shari will be the SEAC representative providing expert testimony. The deadline for submitting the expert witness summary is February 25, 2002.

Action Items

None

Ex-Officio Reports

Michigan Department of Career Development/Rehabilitation Services – Rosanne Renauer indicated that 40 rehabilitation counselors attended Michigan Transition Services Professional Development Training.

Committee Reports

Operations — Brian Pianosi. The Operations Committee has been working to develop a process for filling vacancies, as well as revising the SEAC Bylaws.

Policy — Steve Wessels. The Policy committee continues work on the inclusive education policy.

State Improvement Plan — Shari Krishnan. The SIP committee continues work on accessing the general curriculum.

Member Issues

Debra Canja – Micro Boards will be presenting at CAUSE on May 23-24. The 2nd week of November 2002, Partners in Policymaking will be conducting training at CAUSE. CAUSE is also developing new workshops for PACs.

Ginny Palubin – The Biannual Quest conference will be held in May 2002 at Boyne Highlands. Interested parties may call to be put on the Listserv for this conference.

Fran Loose - ENC Focus has an issue on special needs. Refer to their website: enc.org

Deb Russell – Reports that the SEAC receives regarding hearings are not informative. Jacque indicated that OSE/EIS staff is developing a hearing summary format to provide information more clearly.

Steve Wessels – The MATEDC conference will be held May 1-3 this year in Boyne. All information regarding this conference can be found on the web-site: MATEDC.org

Peggy McNeilly – The MTSA conference this year will be held March 10-11.

Kim Kaster – The Arc Michigan conference this year will be May 10-11. More information will be provided at a future meeting. A handout regarding Pathway to Kindergarten will be provided at the next meeting.

Bob Opsommer – The Autism Society of Michigan will hold their spring Focus workshops at six locations in Michigan including the Upper Peninsula. Informational pamphlets are available for those interested.

Laurie VanderPloeg – The CEC will hold their conference this year from February 27 – March 1. Last year Kent ISD sent 5 parents.

Future Agenda Items:

- Continue to pursue an update on PBS from Bernie Travnika

The meeting was adjourned to subcommittee meetings.

Monica Butler

Recording Secretary

During the lunch break each nominee was given an opportunity to tell the Committee about themselves. At 12:30, Steve Wessels moved, seconded by Debs Roush, to re-open the SEAC meeting to discuss the Slate of Nominations. The motion carried. Anne White-O'Hara moved, seconded by Brenda Kotsis, to approve the write-in of Bob Opsommer. The motion carried. Steve Wessels moved, seconded by Kathleen Clegg, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Committee
Minutes of February 6, 2002, Meeting
8:45 a.m.

Present: Shari Krishnan, Bob Opsommer, Ginny Palubin, Brian Pianosi, Jacquelyn Thompson, Laurie VanderPloeg, Steve Wessels
David Brock, Sandi Laham, Sue Leach, Fran Loose

Review of Today's Agenda

The agenda was reviewed, agenda changes will include: Education Yes report/update by Jacquelyn Thompson, Summary of Listen and Learn Session with Tom, and IDEA Reauthorization by Shari Krishnan

Future Agenda Development

It was noted that attempts are still being made to contact Bernie Travnika to schedule a presentation PBS.

Tentative Agenda item, Inclusive Education policy

State Department Report

Jacque will give a brief summary of the Listen and Learn session conducted with Tom Watkins on January 31, 2002; give an overview of Education Yes and encourage SEAC to take advantage of the public comment opportunity; and have Fran do the overview of the joint meeting on February 7.

Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee Chairs reported on the work of their committees. Updates will be shared with the committee of the whole.

Operations — Brian Pianosi reported that the Operations Committee is close to finishing the process for filling vacant organizational seats. He will present the information gathered at their last meeting today. This process is being developed as a direct result of the PIAM vacancy.

SIP — Research and data has been collected and now there will be dialog on how to proceed.

Policy — Steve Wessels indicated the Policy Committee is expected to complete a recommendation on LRE today. This will be put on the next SEAC Committee of the whole agenda.

Miscellaneous

Kim Kaster must step down from her seat on the Executive Committee, but intends to remain on the SEAC. Laurie VanderPloeg will address Kim's Executive Committee resignation in her Chairperson's report during the SEAC meeting of the whole. According to SEAC Bylaws, Laurie shall designate a replacement for Kim.

The process for electing next year's Executive Committee was reviewed.

It was agreed by the Committee to ask Pat Metz to complete Kim's Executive Committee term.

There was discussion about having a Michigan representative as an expert witness for the IDEA Reauthorization. It was recommended that Shari pursue this using the SEAC guiding principles as the base line for her comment.

Submitted by

Monica Butler